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1 April 1958

Mr. John T. Campbell, Head
 BBC Monitoring Service
 Caversham Park
 Reading Berks, England

Dear John:

We are informing our field bureau chiefs of your itinerary as forwarded with your 6 March letter, and asking them to arrange hotel reservations for you. We are also asking them to be conservative in social plans - I know from personal experience how important this is on one of these long swings around the world!

You will need nothing additional in the way of documentation for Hawaii, but a military permit will be required for Okinawa. This is a formality which we can arrange for you here in Washington. It might help if you could furnish us in advance your passport data, to include type, date and place of issue, your name exactly as stated on the passport, and your travel status if described in the passport (tourist, official business etc.).

Andy has the names of all our bureau chiefs, and the mailing addresses of the bureaus, and I will not bother to repeat them here.

FBIS has several matters meriting discussion while you are here, although not all of them warrant the formality of being placed on the Agenda. Some of these will no doubt also be on your list:

(a) Arabic Coverage: Developments in the Middle East and the expansion of Arabic broadcasting again seem to make it necessary that we consider measures to develop further our mutual coverage capabilities. We are studying the feasibility of another expansion of the Arabic staff at Kyrenia, although the strained facilities of the bureau will not permit much expansion without curtailment somewhere else. We feel, too, that there may be duplication in Cyprus and Caversham coverage of some North African programs at the expense of Soviet Satellite broadcasts in Arabic. The latter are of considerable interest to us.

(b) Alterations of Soviet and Satellite Coverage: Major changes, especially reductions, in the levels of monitoring coverage of Soviet

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and Satellite broadcast services affect the inferences drawn from FBIS propaganda analysis of these broadcasts. It would be highly desirable from the FBIS point of view if major changes in the extent of BBC coverage of given broadcast services were immediately reported to FBIS, apart from the routine reporting by means of the periodic Alterations to the schedules.

(c) African Monitoring: FBIS will report that a reassessment of its consumers' requirements for monitoring of North, West, and East African broadcasts is planned in the summer of 1958, and the BBC's views will be solicited at that time. Depending on the outcome of this second survey further action leading toward the establishment of African monitoring stations will be considered.

(d) Cyprus Emergency Planning: We are as you know, concerned about the effect of the situation in Cyprus on our operations. We certainly do not intend to move unless it should become absolutely necessary in order to maintain our operation, but it would be less than realistic if we did not have some plan for an alternate operation. Our present thinking along these lines is that in such an emergency the bulk of the bureau would go to Istanbul, where some exploration has been made, with some Satellite monitoring at Vienna. In this event, some temporary assistance from the BBC in assumption of coverage and accommodation of FBIS monitors at Caversham might be requested.

(e) Cyprus Diplomatic Status: FBIS in Cyprus has never had the same diplomatic or consular privileges enjoyed by other U.S. Government personnel on the island. In the past we have managed to operate very well without them. We feel now, however, that it is wise to seek such regularization of our status as a protective measure. This would put us in a firmer position to continue operations unhampered by political developments. The Agency has, therefore, asked the Department of State to approach the proper British authorities with a view to requesting "ex gratia" diplomatic status in Cyprus for FBIS.

(f) Communications Procedures: Our allocated channels for fast communication between London and FBIS Washington have been in operation for some three months, and we are instituting a trans-Pacific channel from Tokyo in early April. We are interested in BBC experience with relayed receipt of Far Eastern and Latin American material under the new system.

(g) Miscellaneous Coverage Problems:

(1) We plan to furnish you current FBIS evaluations of the Teheran and Stockholm material.

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(2) Due to reception deterioration and staff limitations, FBIS will be unable to conduct Scandinavian monitoring and will henceforth rely entirely on the BBC for coverage from this source.

(3) FBIS will be interested in a report on what the BBC is now doing on coverage of TASS Russian radio teletype.

I am looking forward to your visit, and am especially gratified that you are able to visit our field stations.

Sincerely,


Chief, FBIS

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RGS/smf

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